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made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the hereafter appended claims.--

On page 13 (last page), cancel lines 1-3 and substitute the following centered heading therefor:

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--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE--

On page 13., line 5, cancel "The" and substitute therefor --A method for receiving or transmitting messages wherein the--

On page 13, line 9, cancel the "." and substitute therefor --and--.

On page 13, line 10, cancel "To" and substitute therefor --to--.

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On page 13, line 11, cancel "must be" and substitute therefor --are--.

In the Claims:

On page 10, cancel line 1, and substitute the following left-hand justified heading therefor:

--We Claim As Our Invention:--

15 Please cancel claims 1-12, without prejudice, and substitute the following claims therefor:

13. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission, the method comprising the steps of:

20 receiving a spread-spectrum signal keyed with a first spreading code at a receiver;

using a second spreading code which is shorter than the first spreading code to receive the spread-spectrum signal; and

correlating the spread-spectrum signal with the second spreading code at the receiver.

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14. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 13, the method further comprising the step of:

defining the second spreading code to be a code segment of the first spreading code.

15. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 13, the method further comprising the step of:

5 selecting the second spreading code to be as short as possible to still enable messages to be received with sufficient quality and reliability.

16. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 15, the method further comprising the steps of:

continuously assessing the quality of the received messages; and

10 continuously adapting a length of the second spreading code to an instantaneous quality of reception such that an adequate quality of reception is achieved.

17. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 15, the method further comprising the step of:

15 determining the quality of reception with the aid of redundant codes which were used for channel coding of the messages.

18. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 15, the method further comprising the step of:

20 improving the quality of reception with the aid of error correction codes which were used for channel coding of the messages.

19. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 13, wherein individual facilities of the receiver are at least one of intermittently turned off and operated at a lower clock frequency due to the second spreading code being shorter than the first spreading code.

20. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 19, wherein the intermittent turning off of the individual facilities of the receiver is controlled by a control device such that power consumption of the receiver is as low as possible with a predetermined quality of reception.

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21. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 20, wherein shortened spreading codes are selected for two successive symbols of a message to be detected such that the individual facilities of the receiver can be turned off over coherent periods of time which are as long as possible.

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22. A method for receiving messages in a digital transmission as claimed in claim 13, wherein the second spreading code is extended to form a third spreading code which is also shorter than the first spreading code if the quality of reception is not adequate when the second spreading code is used.

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23. A method for transmitting messages in a digital transmission to a plurality of receivers, the method comprising the steps of:

spreading a spectrum of message signals for the plurality of receivers via a plurality of first spreading codes which are respectively different for each of the plurality of receivers;

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spreading a spectrum of message signals which are intended for a group of receivers via a further first spreading code which is common to all of the receivers of the group;

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selecting the plurality of first spreading codes such that a plurality of second spreading codes respectively associated with the plurality of first spreading codes have as low as possible a correlation with the further first spreading code used for the group of receivers; and